(d) whether any foreign agency is investing in these refineries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Indian Oil Corporation has in principle approval to set up a 6 MMTPA joint venture refinery in the East Coast.

(b) and (c) As per initial estimates, IOC's refinery project is expected to cost around Rs. 3031 crores (June 1992 prices). IOC expects to mobilise the funds partly from internal resources and partly from external resources. The external resources will be through public deposits, medium term financing and foreign borrowings.

(d) and (e) Interest was shown by some foreign companies like M/s. Oman Oil Company, Bermuda, International Petroleum Investment Company, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, Kuwait, Petronas, Malaysia for participation as Joint Venture partner.

Gas Pipeline between India and Oman

6790. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pipeline is proposed to be laid between Oman and India;

(b) whether the project is in doldrums because of the high gas price quoted by Oman Oil Company;

(c) whether there is a proposal to form a joint venture by Oman Oil Company with Enron Corporation of US for this project; and

(d) what is the present stage of negotiations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A proposal for a gas pipeline from Oman to India has been received from the Oman Oil Company. The terms including price for supply of gas is being discussed.

(c) and (d) The Government is not aware of any such proposal.

NRIs and Multi-Nationals for Oil Drilling in India

6791. SHRI MATANG SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NRIs and multi-national companies which have applied for permission for oil drilling in India;

(b) the details of the companies which have been granted permission during the last one year and the broad terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) by when these companies would start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The number of NRIs and multinational companies which have submitted their bids in the various exploration/development rounds offered so far are given below:—

Round of bidding	Number of NRIs/ multinational companies which have submitted the bids
4th exploration round	21
5th exploration round	5
6th exploration round	9
1st offer of discovered fields	22
2nd offer of discovered fields	11

(b) Government has approved award of contracts to companies as per the following details:

Fourth Round of Exploration:

1. Consortium of Hindustan Oil Exploration Company (HOEC) and Mafatlal Industries, both of India.